

The Meter

Tennessee State University



What does the role of Miss TSU mean?

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Get to know Tennessee's representatives.

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TSU hosts its second annual multicultural fair.

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Samuel F. Yette to visit TSU.

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The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

Student Election Week 2002!!!

By Gregory Brand
A&E Writer

The spring semester is in full swing and while the temperature is getting warmer, and skirts are getting shorter, the candidates are gearing up for the competitive leg of its Student Election Commission week.

For those who don't know, SEC week is the time of year when, the Student Government Association holds its elections for its committee member

positions.

The positions up for the taking range from class officers to class queens, SGA representatives and even the highly sought after and coveted position of Miss Tennessee State University.

As soon as the opportunity to run for a seat in the SGA presents itself, dozens of students flock to the SGA office hoping to gain the real responsibility of becoming campus leaders.

This year there is only one candidate for SGA President, two for vice president, eight Miss TSU candidates and 12

representative-at-large contenders. Once you've been cleared to participate in the college's "legislative races" you're on your way. Campaigning and presenting yourself becomes your responsibility alone. Being inviting, welcoming and warm while making your platform visible and worth paying attention to is your job. And with all of the latter mentioned weight on your shoulders, try adding the accompanying cost of campaigning to engage your fellow students to vote for you.

"Folks will stand at your table and

eat your food and go vote for someone else," said Crystal Johnson, junior English and Criminal Justice major. "There is more involved in the process than giving away food and fliers."

Everywhere you look the campaign posters hang freely from nearly every wall and most of the campus scurries about with someone's flier in their hand or even a bit of candy along with a slogan or two. The real deal is all of the posters, fliers and candy are not free and the cost

See "Campaigning" on page 7

TSU student has baby in fifth floor Wilson Hall bathroom

Catrina Hewlett
and Meridith M. Miller
News Writer and A&E Writer

An unwed, teen-age student who didn't know that she was pregnant led to an unfortunate incident in Wilson Hall, the girl's freshman dorm, when she gave birth with no medical assistance.

On Tuesday, April 2, a nineteen-year-old woman gave birth in the fifth floor bathroom of Wilson Hall and, allegedly, threw the child in the trash. Metropolitan police Detective Melvin Curtis reported to Channel Four news that the pregnancy and birth may have

have been a surprise to her. The newborn may have been thrown in the trash because the mother might have thought the child was dead. The mother and baby were taken to Baptist Hospital and were reported to be healthy from a Channel Four news correspondent.

Patricia Mabry, the dorm director for Wilson Hall, declined to comment on the situation. She said that the situation is over and done with and that it should be left alone. Mabry also mentioned that the mother and child are doing fine now. She said she wants to move on from the incident and continue with the rest of the semester.

Dean Dorothy Lockridge in Student Affairs had no comment on the incident.

Dean Peggy Earnest in Housing declined on giving a statement over the phone, but said she would speak in person on Friday, April 5. When a *Meter* reporter arrived, Earnest had left for the day.

A Channel Four News reporter stated, in Tennessee that there is a law that allows mothers to leave their newborns at hospitals and healthcare centers without being charged.

Students also can seek help on campus in the form of counseling, medical attention or advisement.

The University Counseling Center offers services that assist students in personal decision-making processes and the development and refinement of interper-

sonal and social relations.

Counseling services also are available to each student regarding vocational, educational and crisis issues. Professional counselors are available to meet with students on an individual or group basis. Students may visit the center on a voluntary basis with or without a referral. Confidentiality is maintained and appointments can be made in person or by telephone.

Consultation services are available to provide outreach activities for students regarding substance abuse, date rape, grief, stress management, assertiveness skills and other prevalent issues.*

News

SEC Issue 2002

Miss TSU means character, cost

By Sherpri Giles
News Writer

There is more to being Miss Tennessee State University than a beautiful face and smile.

Miss TSU is the official queen, student representative, hostess, recruiter and ambassador for the university. She must exemplify high character at all times, including at football games, public speeches and other campus and community events.

According to the Miss TSU Handbook, Miss TSU is a person of "high moral conduct and a student with a great deal of pride." The handbook provides the basic outline of the position and it details the policies, procedures, conduct and benefits of being Miss TSU.

"My reign has been spectacular," said Mia Evans, the current Miss TSU. "I have been so blessed, because God sur-

passed all imaginable dreams." Evans said she believes the demanding duties of her reign have made her closer to the Lord. She also said her position created an inner confidence and readiness to face the real world. As queen, she said, she has acquired a talent of giving quick answers and acknowledging the gift God has given her.

"Mia has exemplified all of the characteristics of a true queen,"

said junior Marcus Nettle. The handbook lists more

than 20 guidelines Miss TSU is to follow. It is an "extremely demanding" position, according to Evans. For example, Miss TSU is expected to represent integrity in scholarship, leadership, and character throughout her reign.

The university understands that the duties of Miss TSU can get strenuous; therefore, time management skills must also be a part of her overall talents. The coordinator of student activities, Dale Williams, is the adviser to Miss TSU. Williams served as Miss TSU in 1992-1993. According to the hand-

book, as an adviser she is to "provide Miss TSU and the Royal Court with a clear understanding of their duties and responsibilities to the university." The royal court consists of Miss Senior, Miss Junior, Miss Sophomore, and Miss Freshman. Williams' job extends far beyond the written description.

She also supports Miss TSU as she performs various tasks for

the university. Her main purpose is to assist with the numerous pressures that come with the position. Evans said she believes the position of Miss TSU can be mentally, physically and emotionally stressful. However, she looks to the words of Williams, her adviser and friend, to spiritually lift her and encourage her to reach her full potential as Miss TSU.

"I think Mia's a wonderful queen overall...I expect a lot but I also give a lot," Williams said. "Mia possessed good qualities before her reign."

The reign of Miss TSU also comes

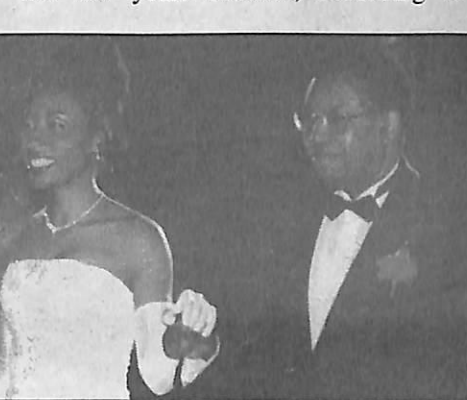


PHOTO BY ILYAS MUHAMMAD

MISS TSU 2001-02 Mia Evans and President Hefner.

Williams, "the best gifts are unexpected."

Miss TSU's own money typically is insufficient for the bulk of her expenses. Therefore, she gets additional funds from Student Activities, the Student Union Board of Governors and the Student Government Association. The budget covers her personal clothing, attire for pageants, accessories and some personal care items.

See "Miss" on page 8



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU YEARBOOK

Miss TSU 1993-94 Caperina L. Robinson.

The basic guidelines for running for a Student Government Association office

By Crystal J. McMoore
News Writer

To avoid disappointment after election week is over, students should know what will qualify or disqualify them for each office.

Many students aspire to represent their class in one way or another. Among the more popular methods of doing so is campaigning to hold an office with the Student Government Association. These offices include representative-at-large, class representative, president and vice president, and Miss Tennessee State University. A common problem is that some students decide to run for an office without a clear understanding of what is imperative.

"The first thing students need to do prior to running is read the student handbook," said Dean Ronald Myles in stu-

dent activities. "There is a section that specifically states the criteria for running for student office."

Myles said that quite a few students end up wasting their time by trying to run for an office without knowing the requirements, because once the academic background checks have been run, they may find that they don't even qualify. Representative-at-large (Day and Evening) must be a full-time student (12 hours) and must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or greater.

Class representatives must have completed the required hours for their specific class (freshman, sophomore, etc.), be a full-time student and must have earned a 2.5 cumulative G.P.A. and a 2.3 semester grade point average.

President and vice president must have 78 semester credit hours prior to seeking office, be a full-time student with cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or greater and must have earned 90 semester

credit hours by the end of the semester for which office is sought.

The candidates for Miss TSU must be female and have completed 78 hours prior to running, maintain a G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher, and since Miss TSU represents the school as a whole, she is expected to have high moral character, poise, loyalty, an amiable personality and a friendly attitude.

All positions require that a student not be on academic probation and no candidate can have been found guilty of any violation of the Student Code of Conduct. All G.P.A. and semester hour requirements exclude remedial and developmental hours.

Students should also know what they are getting themselves into prior to being elected.

"You should have a clear understanding of the responsibilities of an officer, and possess the passion and will to fulfill those duties," said Charles H.

Galbreath Jr., a two-year member of the Student Government Association.

"The Student Election Commission holds workshops so that the potential student officers can understand their responsibilities and address any concerns," Myles said. He also said that it is necessary for students to refer to the Student handbook for the duties of an officer.

Galbreath said, "as long as there is desire and an understanding that you are the voice of the student body, success will follow."

Any student with further questions can call Kari Hardwick, chairperson of the Student Election Commission, at 963-5037.

News

SEC Issue 2002

SEC Week speakers seek to empower TSU students

By Raynata Y. Reed
News Editor

Students will be entertained, informed and enlightened by three keynote speakers, William Latham, Jeff Obafemi Carr and Rodrick Glover, during the Student Government Association's Student Appreciation Week, from April 14 through April 20.

SGA President Damyon Thompson said SGA week was instituted two years ago and this year he is most excited about the speakers.

"This is the first time SGA week has included so many speakers," Thompson said. "There is an abundance of knowledge that students can walk away with from hearing these speakers."

Latham, a graduate of Morehouse College, will be speaking on how to start your own business. His presentation will be in the faculty dining room on April 15. Latham is the director for the Tennessee Small Business Development Center, a free center that is open to the public and allows visitors to learn about entrepreneurship through an extensive multimedia library, counseling and various workshops. The SBDC was obtained through a grant Tennessee State University received through its office of Sponsored Research.

Student Appreciation Week Chairperson Cheron Corbett worked hard

to get TSU alumnus Jeff Obafemi Carr to bring his one-man production of *How Black Kin Eye Bee?* to the students. The play is a series of monologues.

"The show is excellent," Corbett said. "As a Black student, and as African-Americans, this show should be a must." Carr will present his play at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17, in the Thomas E. Poag Auditorium.

Carr, who spells his name in lowercase letters as a gesture of humility, said he wants to bring out many themes during his show, including honesty, the concept of love, and responsibility.

"Sometimes we need to take a humorous look at life as it affects us as a people," Carr said.

"It's so important to reach HBCU students. They represent the talented tenth that DuBois spoke about. *How Black Kin Eye Bee?* is particularly potent and important for HBCU students because it allows us, in a satirical way, to take a really hard look at ourselves and how we are as a people."

Carr, a 1990 graduate of TSU said it is an honor to speak at his alma mater.

"It is a dual honor for me because I get to return to the stage where I started my theatrical career," Carr said. "And the SGA asked me to come and I also was a member of the SGA for three years and president my last year."

Originally, *How Black Kin Eye Bee?* consisted of nine characters, ranging from a grandmother in a nursing home to

a professor, but now it has seven. He asserts that all of them are unique and he cannot pick a favorite.

"If I had to pick a favorite, I wouldn't because the others would be mad at me," Carr said with a laugh. "I am the father through which the characters come... (you know) how it is dealing with offspring."

Rodrick Glover, a motivational speaker who speaks on self-love for teens and college students, will bring words of inspiration to TSU students on Thursday April 18 at 7 p.m. in the Humanities building.

"I will be teaching young ladies and men how to respect themselves," Glover said. "Why they should choose an abstinent lifestyle and if you choose not to what can happen... I expect people to change their lives. It's going to be a turning point for them in their lives."

Glover is a 2000 alumnus of TSU and is working on touring 10 different colleges on what he calls the Love Tour.

At the end of his presentation, Glover gives audience members an opportunity to make the decision to become a "reborn virgin." In addition to TSU students, Glover's presentation is free to the community, particularly Nashville area teens and single parents.

As for all of the speakers, Corbett encourages all students to attend and said "every speaker is a must."

"We want students to know that we thank them," Corbett said. "To let them

know that there's more to college than Greek weeks and we're trying to make everybody come together as a whole."

Charles Galbreath Jr., sophomore class representative, said SGA week hopes to bring spirit back to TSU.

"It's been kind of dead with different Greeks not having weeks," Galbreath said. "And we [the current SGA] want to show students that we're not stopping, even when the new officers are elected."

Some of the other events for SGA week include donuts in the residence hall, music in the courtyard, a carnival in the cafeteria and a free car wash at the Amoco on Jefferson Street.

"I encourage students to come out and enjoy the events and to really get a chance to participate," Thompson said. "Enjoy yourself and meet your student body officials."

Got News?

Contact

News Editor

Raynata Reed

and let her know.

She can be reached at

963-5649.

Founder of The Meter to visit TSU

Noted author and photojournalist Samuel F. Yette will be conducting a lecture and book signing at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 14, at Tennessee State University's Ford Complex Center, in celebration of Gaiete De Coeur Art and Study Club's 80th anniversary.

Yette, a TSU alumnus, is the founder of *The Meter*, is the author of *The Choice* and *Washington and Two Marches, 1963 & 1983*, and his photographic credits include work for *National Geographic*, *Jet*, *People* and *Time* magazines. He has been a columnist for several newspapers, including *The Miami Times* and *The Philadelphia Tribune*, and he has made appearances on the television shows *Meet the Press*, *Face the Nation*, and *The Today Show*.

Gaiete De Coeur is an arts study club that participates in the civic and cultural affairs of the community. It was established in 1922 as an organization

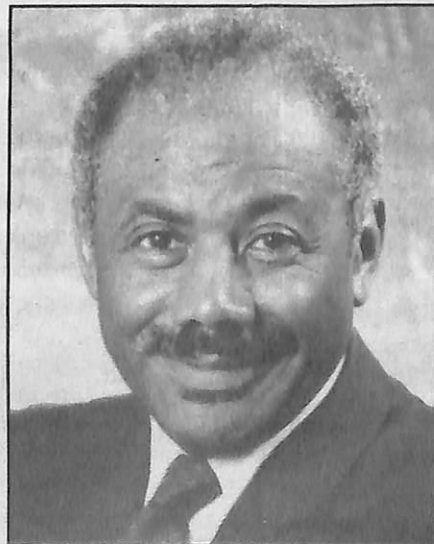


PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMUEL F. YETTE

Samuel F. Yette.
of Black matrons who gathered to pursue excellence in the practical arts.*

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The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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CIRCULATION: **3,000**

The Meter is a student publication that does not necessarily reflect the standards of the administration of Tennessee State University.

The Meter capitalizes the letter "B" in the word "Black" when it refers to people of African descent in accordance with the Oxford American and other dictionaries.

What We Think

ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

Amid the fan fare, free food and fish fries of Student Election Commission Week, the platforms of each candidate are often overlooked. Students may be unable to match a face with their freebies, let alone what each candidate stands for.

In 1999, The Meter editorial board took the initiative to give each candidate running for the offices of Student Government Association president, vice president and Miss Tennessee State University the opportunity to share their platform and why they are seeking a particular office in scheduled interviews. The editorial board then asks each candidate questions based on what was said during their platform or pertaining to their particular office. Each person's picture was taken so that students could put a face with a name. Candidates were not compared to other candidates running for the same position. Each candidate was evaluated on an individual basis. Endorsements are not meant to sway voters, but to be a mechanism to inform students of the issues.

While all positions are vital, the offices of SGA president, vice president and Miss

TSU are the most prestigious and demand the most of those chosen. Below are the editorial board's endorsements for each position. For those candidates running for representatives at large, refer to pages 18 and 19.

SGA President

Jamie R. Riley, the sole candidate for president, is adamant on staying visible with the students. He believes that some projects that the SGA works on are not always made public to the students. He wants to set up more tables in the Student Center to inform students about the SGA and its current projects. He believes that the SGA usually does what they think the student wants, but he wants to talk to the students to know what they want. Riley believes that since TSU is a historically black college and university, Africana Studies should be a mandatory part of the core-curriculum so that students can learn about their heritage. Riley also wants to have two members of the SGA in each residence hall so that they can stay connected with the students.

Vice President

Strengthening the general assembly and eliminating student apathy are two main

See "The Meter" on page 14

From Where I Sit: The depreciation of student leaders here at TSU



Henderson Hill III
Editor in Chief

It's that time of year again! Break out your Tupperware for a lot of good campaign food, get ready to listen to people telling you what they think you want to hear, and a lot of pretentious smiles and promises that candidates will probably never keep. That's right, it's Student Election Commission Week, the only time of the year other than Freshman Election Week that the SEC actually does something.

The disturbing thing that I noticed is that this time around, as a whole, there are no "real" leaders running. After The Meter editorial board spent five hours interviewing candidates to see who it would endorse, I emerged uninterested in anything any candidate had to say. Listening to the redundant platforms of campus beautification, school spirit and student apathy (which still have not been addressed), not only made my mind wander off into "La-La Land," but made me question what were these individuals' motives for running for these positions.

I want people to know that being a student leader is not as glamorous as one may think. I have sacrificed personal time, an abundance of sleep, schoolwork (at times) and learned to be more cognizant of the capacity in which I serve and to preserve the image of my office, all to put in labor for something that I truly believe in. Being a student leader is hard, hence the words student and leader. As a graduating senior with 21 hours, I see myself as the ultimate super student right now, and as a leader I have the responsibility to stand for something positive. My resume was top-notch well before I interviewed for my position as Editor in Chief, so if any candidates are trying to strengthen their resumes by running for these offices you've been warned that it will be no walk in the park. Let it be known that the wolves of the student body will smell your insincerities, and rip you to pieces if you are not genuine in your actions.

For every young lady that who is running for Miss Tennessee State University, I hope you know that this is not simply a title but an actual elected

office. If you are having questions about the "true" role of Miss TSU, you may want to consult with Dale Williams, coordinator of student activities and adviser to Miss TSU. Before I actually paid any attention the roles of SGA offices, I honestly thought that Miss TSU was a simple figurehead position where an attractive woman was chosen to represent the school. I stand corrected. This position not only holds SGA voting power, but also serves as a national ambassador for the university. This is work and not an "air-head" fluff job that should be given to just anyone, because our college queen is one of the most influential representatives of our school.

The biggest problem that I have with the current election is that there is only one candidate for Student Government Association president. When I received the list with only one uncontested entrant, I just shook my head in disbelief. Had the level of student apathy finally come to a head? I thought that this was truly ridiculous. What is really going on? Is Jamie Riley an intimidating opponent? Do students just not care about the importance of the SGA presidency? Or is Riley simply the second coming of the SGA presidential messiah? In the four years that I have been at TSU I never have seen the office of SGA president so easily handed over, with no competition for such a powerful role on this campus. Therefore, the student body has no room to complain about the level of work that Riley will do as president next year, because more people should have run for the office. From one Black man to another, I hope and pray that Riley does a diligent job next year and won't fall into the hype of his responsibilities, while maintaining an integrity that keeps the student body's best interest at heart.

TSU family, listen intently to what each candidate has to say. Be those wolves who are not afraid to ask them challenging questions about their platforms. Most of all, make sure that when you vote you are not voting for popularity reasons or because someone served good chicken during her campaign, but you are voting for someone who will work hard for your overall concerns. •

Classifieds

Evolution Creative Group

The Evolution Creative Group is a Tennessee State University Student entertainment organization comprised of creative, free-spirited, talented individuals dedicated to encouraging artistic expression through various entertainment mediums, including television, music, film, radio, and Web. We have a diverse group of members who specialize in a plethora of disciplines, including music production, advertising, marketing, Web design, acting, graphic design, photography and event planning.

The organization's purpose is to:

- Give students real world experience in respective fields
- Stimulate campus life
- Promote student unity and self-expression
- Improve campus communication
- Bridge the gap between student, staff and faculty
- Bridge the gap between campus and community
- Provide new mediums of expression and communication

The organization owns several small businesses, including a publishing company called QuietStorm

Publishing and a record label called Indi Records, and it has partnerships with various local Nashville businesses that mentor us and guide us in achieving our goal, which is to be the most productive and recognized student organization.

The organization has planned and executed 15 on- and off-campus events to date, including the HBCU Think Tank After Party and the Relay For Life Walk for Cancer. The organization currently is working on a compilation CD called Tennessee State of Mind, Volume 1, which will display a variety of TSU musical talent and is due in stores sometime in late spring. We also are working on an inaugural film festival called "A Celebration of African-American Film", a television show and a magazine called Evolution, which is due out in the fall of 2002.

For more information about The Evolution Creative Group or any of our upcoming projects and events visit the Web site at, www.theevolutionproject.org or phone (615)356-8447.

Shawntaz Crawford
Evolution Creative
Group President

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The Alerter Mission Statement

The Alerter's mission is to timely report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive changes in the world around us, while reflecting the university's multicultural student body.

Submission Requirements

The Alerter is published biweekly and is available free to the Tennessee State University community. Opinions expressed herein are of the writer, not those of the administration, the Student Government Association or the faculty or staff of TSU. The submission deadline is the Wednesday before each issue date. **No exceptions!**

The Alerter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timeliness, clarity of thought, factual accuracy, and interest to the university community will be factors in selecting material for publication.

All materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- a) All contributions must be typed, double-spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, title or classification, telephone number and P.O. Box.
- b) Opinions should not exceed 500 words, and letters should not exceed 300 words.
- c) Sources of factual material should be included. All claims of fact are subject to verification.
- d) The Alerter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads, without explanation, and to edit others as necessary.

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these." - **George Washington Carver**

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News

SEC Issue 2002

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TSU students participate in Honors Conference

By Catrina Hewlett
News Writer

Dr. Sandra Holt, director of the University Honors Program and president of the National Association of African-American Honors Programs, took a group of promising honors students to Atlanta to participate in the Southern Regional Honors Conference on March 21. It was a three-day event where students and faculty of different honors programs could network, compare resumes, meet fellow honor students and present research.

More than 550 people registered for the conference. Research varied from religious topics to Greek hazing practices. Two TSU graduating seniors pre-

sented their research. Linda Brewer presented her research on male-female relationships under the title *Secure Perceptions of Romantic Relationships and Self-Esteem in African American Women*. Candice Thomas presented her research, *The Construction of the Dominant-Negative Form of Vgr-1 to Identify its Function in the Midline Glia of Drosophila*.

"It was interesting to see how students had research in so many areas," said Jacinta Tibbs, a graduating senior from Huntsville, Ala.

Sessions of presentations every day and evening had a small drawback.

"The actual strength of the conference was there was a great deal of research presented in a small amount of time," said Lee McGahey, assistant director of the honors program. "It was very

research and presentational oriented, but there was a small amount of time for student interaction."

Initially, the coordinators of the conference proposed that the next SRHC be held in Columbia, S.C. But that location is not confirmed because some people oppose meeting there so long as both the state and confederate flags fly at the courthouse.

"On one hand it has been alleviated, but long term wise it's kind of a slap in the face," McGahey said, adding that a state that is not accountable to all of its members should not represent the SRH Council. They met and decided that if the SRHC will be held in South Carolina, no school associated with the NAAHP would attend. •

"Freedom of speech is a right to be fought for, not a blessing to be wished for. But it is more than that: It is the essential vehicle for the exchange of ideas between nations and cultures. And without that exchange and interaction, there can be no true understanding or lasting cooperation."
- General Kofi Annan

News

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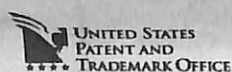
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Campaigning is not a cheap endeavor for candidates

Continued from page 1

of the student body's attention is expensive. A candidate has to contend with their campaign challenges, a Kinko's bill, and food cost for promotion and their campaign table.

If you are not completely dedicated to the SEC process, this is not something you should leap head first into. Spending a lot of money does not guarantee a win.

"I think that the quality of someone's campaign will show no matter how much money they spend," said junior communications major, Antoine Dandridge. "No matter how much money a person spends on their campaign, if they're not sincere in what they are doing it will show."

On top of the cost that comes from just trying to get the message

across, the expenses continue to add up. If you want to be seen on TSU's cable channel the cost goes up an extra \$25 just for your written message to be presented and an extra \$50 for the station to post your message.

To eliminate the possibility of campaigning becoming too much of a personal expense, many students turn to the aid of sponsors. This resource proves invaluable to students who have the desire to lead and work for the student body but are not exactly ready to spend all of their money in the races.

"People will stand around and listen to you if you have something to say," said Jamie Riley, junior health care administration major and sole presidential candidate. "If you really want to get involved, work to make people see you and know you. That is how you get the votes."*

Dean Hashimoto,
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News

SEC Issue 2002

2001-02 Campaign promises in retrospect

By Jamarran E'mil Moss
A&E Writer

During Student Election Committee week in 2001, many students campaigned for Student Government Association office positions promising to accomplish multiple goals ranging from restoring student unity to increased security. The 2001-2002 school year is coming to an end and voters wonder if their votes were worthwhile.

According to the Tennessee State University SGA Constitution the five main duties of the SGA are as follows: "1) to represent the welfare and interest of the student body, 2) to facilitate communication and dialogue among students, faculty, and administration in matters affecting the welfare of the student body; 3) to promote academic excellence and good moral and ethical practices; 4) to provide opportunity for the development of superior character and leadership ability among its members, and 5) to exercise the prerogatives and responsibilities of student government as provided in this constitution in cooperation with the university administration."

Considering the vagueness of the listed duties in the SGA constitution, it is up to TSU students to express their concerns to the SGA to be carried out since the SGA is nothing more than a representation of the student body.

"I didn't see any major changes at TSU this past year," said junior Tracie Hill. "The only thing (the SGA elected officials) did was the Think Tank. I feel that we must solve our own problems at

this university before we invite others and try to solve other universities problems. The SGA also should be more instrumental in the community. The only thing they did in the community was get that discount tobacco sign down because it didn't look good for the university. But the University Liquors store down the street doesn't look good for TSU either."

"People complain when their water is too wet," said sophomore Theresah Anderson. "I think that the SGA did a good job. It is hard to please everybody, and they did a lot in their term, but didn't broadcast all the things they did. They reached out and had activities, but not many people attended them. Just because you don't know what the SGA did, doesn't mean they didn't do anything."

During his 2001 campaign Damyon Thompson's platform of the "student's bill of rights" included four main issues: 1) technology, 2) security, 3) financial aid, and 4) scholarships.

The technology issue has been explored by Thompson having a say in the enterprise wide computing strategy which is a technological vision that works in conjunction with Sun Micro Systems to teach computer certification at TSU. In an effort to tackle the TSU security issue, lack of finances became the reason why revolutionary steps could not be taken to increase security. "The financial aid aspect is the least developed, but a consent decree has been put into affect in which outside consultants will come to TSU and evaluate the financial aid, bursars, records and admissions offices for improvement," said Thompson. On the scholarship side of

Thompson's platform, "Over \$10,000 in scholarship money has been given out over the last year by the SGA," Thompson said. "We (the SGA) helped with the Think Tank...the discount tobacco sign removal, and refurbishing the lights and benches by the student center.... The next administration should take it to the next level to see what else they can accomplish. I think people liked this SGA because we were pro-active. Some students said we didn't target their concerns, but we can't fix everything. (The SGA) has to appeal to everyone, and it's a shame that still students don't feel comfortable coming to the SGA, but it shouldn't be that way. We are all students. We are on the same level."

Vice-President of the 2001-2002 SGA, Kevin L. Gilliam II, ran with the slogan "To create a better TSU" and to "Make a difference."

"My goal is to leave a legacy on TSU of change and action," Gilliam said. I want to initiate change while I am here so that when I graduate I can come back and see things that we've put into motion being done. I want to create change in general. Change mind sets and academics. We are resting on past achievements. What about now? What about the present graduates?" The current SGA vice president focused on the monumental impression left by the HBCU Think Tank as an example of change and the mutual assistance shared by the perspective universities and college that visited. "We were challenged by other HBCUs to get African-based courses," Gilliam said. "I know that the Evolution Creative Group is planning a TSU Think Tank and a lot of other organizations are seeing the

need to educate, and not just to party all the time. Students are finally realizing their disillusionment." Many students are reluctant to go the SGA for advice and assistance because they feel that the SGA is more of a clique than a student organization that adheres to the student body's needs. "It's our responsibility to go to the student body, it is not theirs to come to us. We are here to help other students, but we are students also.... I feel students should also recognize the most prevalent problems, not the broken sinks. Those are problems too, but if we focus on all of the little problems, then we will be tired when we get to larger problems."

Mia Evans, 2001-2002 Miss TSU, felt that her term was an eye-opening experience. "I've impacted more people than I thought I would," Evans said. "Especially freshman. I've been able to make great relationships with a few of the freshman and mentor." A monumental event that Evans spearheaded and co-chaired along with Mr. TSU Reco Chapple was the Relay for Life held at Friday, April 5-6. "Last year I really wanted to do something with the Special Olympics, but I found out that there would be so much liability for people to come on the TSU campus," Evans said. The American Cancer Society was searching to have a relay for life event on an HBCU campus for the first time, so I jumped at the chance. It raised cancer awareness, raised money for cancer research, and I have a personal attachment because my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and my grandfather

See "Williams" on page 14

Miss TSU 2001-02 looks forward to crowning of new queen

Continued from page 2

Williams said she acquired numerous talents during her own reign that helped her future.

"I wouldn't be working at TSU," she said. "The reign also helped me to overcome my shyness, be more confident, and made me ready to step into a career." Evans has had successes in that she was runner-up in the Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Pageant, but the position has taken its toll on her.

"The university places you on a pedestal that is almost impossible to fulfill," she said.

Evans said she is looking forward to the next Miss TSU, who students will elect April 11 and 12, being totally different from herself. "She must exemplify her own gift to the university," Evans said. "(S)he should not try



PHOTO COURTESY OF TSU
YEARBOOK

Miss TSU 1992-93.

throne should understand that she is to "make positive changes to promote a positive image."*

to fill my shoes."

However, Evans said she does hope the 2002-2003 Miss TSU continues her dedication to the student body and faculty.

According to the handbook, anyone who aspires to the

SEC WEEK 2002

Wednesday, April 10

SGA Forum
1 p.m. Forum

Miss TSU Pagent
7 p.m. Kean Hall

Thursday, April 11

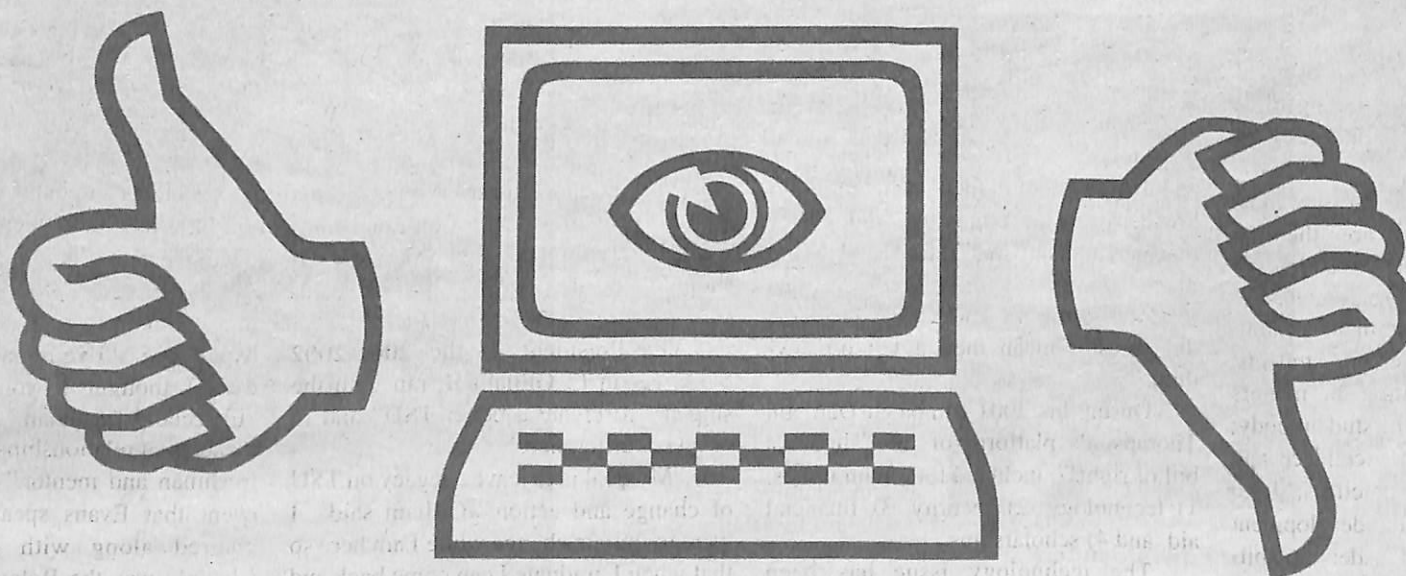
Voting 4-8 p.m.
Avon Williams Atrium

Friday, April 12

Voting 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
FPCC 2nd Floor

Announcement of Winners
9 p.m. Courtyard

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Community View

SEC Issue 2002

Local Black pastor runs for Tennessee governor

By **Catrina Hewlett**
News Writer

Edwin Sanders, senior pastor and founder of the Metropolitan Interdenominational Church, made history as he announced his candidacy for governor of the state of Tennessee on April 3.

Sanders, a Black minister, is not the normal face one would see on the platform around election time. He was born in Memphis, and has lived in Nashville, Lebanon and McMinnville.

Although Sanders is a longtime Republican, he will be running as an independent in this election race. Through his works and accomplishments in the community, he is a nationally recognized spokesperson on health care issues, the education of children and economic opportunities for all.

"My life is an example of my ability to be an effective leader," Sanders said. "Some people elected in the office are not there due to the desire to serve people. My title is 'Senior Servant.' To be a politician you have to serve people, and I will now move into the role of public servant as a politician."

Implementing all he stands for and working with the slogan "Renewing the Spirit of Tennessee," Sanders' campaign will focus on seven points.

First, he said he plans to make the state government responsive to the needs and hopes of all Tennesseans. His "listening campaign" will listen to the voices and concerns of people from all races, social backgrounds and geographic areas of the state and will not end on election day.

Second, Sanders said he wants to create economic opportunities for all through accessible job training programs and support for "microeconomic" development efforts.

Third, Sanders said that in order for Tennessee to realize its full potential, it is necessary for all to have access to quality health care. He plans to lead efforts in providing quality

health care for all Tennesseans. He currently serves as the executive director of the First Response Center, a multidimensional, non-profit program that assists people who are struggling with HIV/AIDS, substance abuse or sexual abuse.

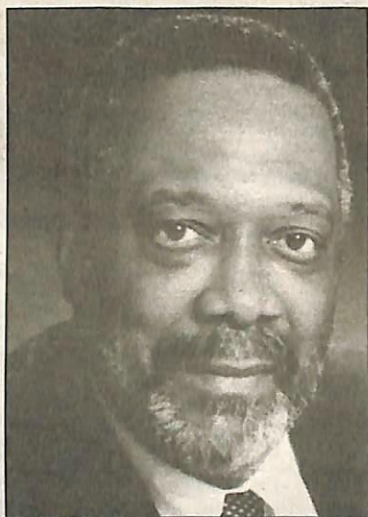


PHOTO COURTESY OF GILL WILLIAMS
Pastor Edwin Sanders

Last month, President George W. Bush appointed Sanders to the President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. In 1998, he was appointed to the Centers for Disease Control Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention.

Fourth, because Sanders is passionate about fair treatment for Tennesseans in the areas of housing, employment and overall government aid, he is making that treatment a platform of his campaign. As a commissioner for the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, he has helped direct and set policies for the regulatory agency.

Almost all candidates will address Tennessee's tax and financial woes. Therefore, as his fifth platform, Sanders wants voters to know that he supports tax reform in the form of a graduated income tax, and a removal of the sales tax on food and other essentials. He said he knows how to work with a strict budget, be it through a non-profit organization or an independent candidacy.

The fifth, sixth, and seventh platform points Sanders will focus on are investing in public education, developing a winning strategy for safe communities,

and protecting the environment for children.

Sanders' church has 800 members and its mission is "to be inclusive of all, irrespective of age, race and economic background." A large component of his ministry is speaking openly about homosexuality, sexually transmitted diseases and America's drug war.

Sanders' supporters said they believe he will benefit Blacks, and all Tennesseans, by winning the gubernatorial race. They describe him as an excellent leader with objectives, goals, priorities, planning and guidelines.

"Ed Sanders does have a heart for the people," said Sheila Grant, a volunteer at the Sanders for Governor headquarters. "He's a Godly man with integrity and humility. He sets a high standard for [the] ministry. He has a unique ability to reach out to others with his dedication and preparation for intellect, for service to God, the ministry and Tennessee." Grant encourages every Tennessean to vote Sanders for governor.

Despite his experience serving the community, not all voters believe he is a notable candidate. Some think he is already involved in too much and may not be ready to run for governor.

But Sanders is optimistic, and said that he believes his candidacy will be a victory in that it will restore confidence in the fact that government works in the interests of the people.

"No one knows everything," Sanders said in reply to his critics. "Leaders surround themselves with experts, and direct them to solve the problems and issues people face."

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Tosha Jones
at 963-555

Community View

SEC Issue 2002

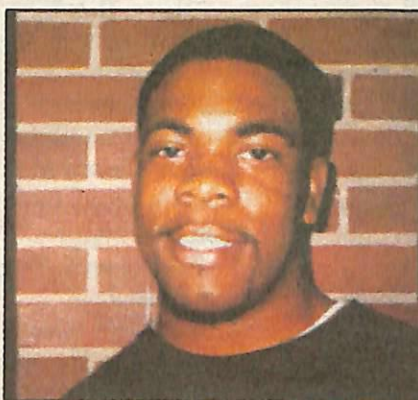
Picks of the Pack

What is the most important issue candidates should address during SEC Week?



Delbrita Green
Nursing Major
Freshman
Birmingham, Ala.

"I think that the most important issue to be addressed by the candidates during SEC Week is dealing with unity and spirit. I think they need to address these issues because Black people in the community are already not together. We are falling apart and we are the ones who make the community and can inspire others to do for their communities."



Adrien Murray
Business Administration Major
Sophomore
Columbia, S.C.

"The most important issue will probably be school unity. There are a lot of organizations out here that just pride themselves on being together but not with the school. I think we need to have...more things...to branch out to other overseas students."



Jacinta Miller
Human Performance and Sports
Science
Major
Junior
Flint, Mich.

"A lot of the student body does not come out and support stuff. Like, it was the walk for cancer and we couldn't even [get] 10 percent of the student body to come out and participate."



Letia Clayton
Speech Pathology and Audiology
Major
Senior
Pine Bluff, Ark.

"I feel that the issue that needs to be addressed during SEC Week is students having to leave during spring break because some people don't want to go home. So I think that it needs to be changed in the policy that you can't stay for spring break or any other break that comes about."



Misty Wilson
Speech and Hearing Science Major
Graduate Student
Chattanooga, Tenn.

"I think that recruitment needs to be improved because they need to recruit more students from more areas of the United States and we don't need to recruit so many minorities. If an African American goes to a white school, our requirements are 3.9 (GPA) and you have to make a 30 on the ACT or a 1200 (on the SAT), but [minorities] come here from high school making a 2.5, and their ACT only has to be 16. What's fair about that?"

Community View

SEC Issue 2002

Know who represents TSU off yard

Compiled by Sherpri Giles
News Writer

Name: **Bill Frist, M.D.**

Position: Tennessee's second-term

United States Senator

Education: Princeton University and Harvard Medical School Committees: Subcommittee on Public Health, Subcommittee on African Affairs, Budget, Foreign Relations, Health, Education, Labor, Pensions and National Republican Senatorial Committees, Deputy Whip of the Senate, and one of two Congressional representatives to the United Nations General Assembly.

Accomplishments: Offered an amendment that allows local authorities the flexibility to treat all students the same, when it comes to guns and bombs in school.



COURTESY OF BILL FRIST'S OFFICE

Cosponsored S. 237, a bill to repeal the tax increases on Social Security.

Voted in favor of S.254, a bill that provided almost \$1 million in prevention and enforcement funds to local and state authorities to fight juvenile crime. Provided tougher penalties for repeat juvenile offenders. Promoted safe and secure schools for American school children.

Supported initiatives that empower individual families and small businesses, not the federal government, to choose how to spend, save, and invest more of their money. These family-owned enterprises employ more than half the nation's work force.

Interesting Personal Facts:

Frist was the first practicing physician to be elected to the Senate.

Frist founded and directed the Vanderbilt Transplant Center.

Community Comment:

"I currently pay taxes to the state and local level. I cannot afford another tax. Therefore, if Frist is for small businesses, I support him all the way."

-Nathaniel Harris,

Owner of Woodcuts Custom Frame Shop

Name: **Douglas Henry**



COURTESY OF DOUGLAS HENRY'S OFFICE

Position:

State Senator

for the 21st

Senatorial

District of

Tennessee

Education:

Vanderbilt

University

and

Vanderbilt

University

Law

School.

Committees: Nashville Chapter of the American Bar Association, Association of Life Insurance Counsel, American Legion, Kiwanis Club, Executive committee of the Tennessee Historical Society, Tennessee State Museum Foundation Board, Chairman of the Capital Commission, Chairman of the Southern Legislative Conference, Executive Committees of the Southern Legislative Conference, Council of the State Governments and the State Federalism Steering Committees.

Accomplishments: Assured health insurance coverage availability under TennCare for all uninsured children regardless of age in the state of Tennessee.

Provided parent education and day care services for teens and their children in counties with high pregnancy rates under the Dropout Prevention Act.

Established the Early Childhood Development Act of 1999, which provided five Health State Pilot Projects to provide home visits, counseling, medical and social services to stressed families at the birth of a child.

Increased standard of need to families with dependent children over three-year increments.

Created competitive Grants Programs for model rural and urban school health programs.

Enacted law to remove children from adult jails, funded Regional Detention Centers and County temporary holding facilities.

Community Comment:

"There is always room for improvements. However, I do believe he contributed to Judge Bernice Donald, the first Black woman to sit on a federal bench in Tennessee, and Judge William Haynes, the first Black to sit on the District Bench. I can only speculate on the role he played in it. However, it is

hard for someone at a national position to help on a local level." - Luther Wright, Attorney and Chairperson of the Minority Lawyers Opportunities Committee.

Name: **Bob Clement**

Position: **U.S. House of**

Representatives for the 5th

Congressional District of Tennessee

Education: University of Tennessee at Knoxville and M.B.A. at Memphis State University (now the University of Memphis)

Committees: Transportation and Infrastructure

Accomplishments: Introduced and passed legislation authorizing \$5 million for Fisk University and a total of \$29 million for historically black colleges nationwide to preserve their historic buildings.

Joined NASA officials to announce partnership grant awards of up to \$100,000 for TSU and Fisk.

Assisted Vanderbilt University in its efforts to become a National Cancer Institute Center.

Fought for measures to curb drug abuse by America's youth by increasing funding for the Office of National Drug Policy and Coast Guard drug interdiction efforts.

Introduced a welfare reform plan, which helped to shape the final reform legislation signed by the president.

Interesting Personal Facts:

Most influential Nashvillian in *Business Nashville's* "100 Most Powerful" 2000 issue.

Became the youngest statewide office holder in Tennessee history as a Public Service Commissioner

Now running for the U.S. Senate to replace Fred Thompson.

Community Comment:

"I think it's good that he's giving back to historically black colleges and universities. I don't expect anymore money, because he alone can't repair our financial dilemma. However, I am very appreciative", said sophomore Lakesha Dodson.



COURTESY OF BOB CLEMENT'S OFFICE

Name: **Edward Whitmore Sr.**

Position: **Metro Councilman** for the 21st Council District

Education: Tennessee State University.

Committees: Jefferson Street United Merchants Partnership, TSU Homecoming Committee

Accomplishments: Made sidewalks safe to walk on around Murphy Alternative School.

Raised \$1,400 to get W.A. Bass Middle School's band instruments repaired. Raised \$3,500 to purchase an EasyCaller Communications System to contact parents of Bass Middle children when their children are absent.

Helped Pearl-Cohn High School soon get a caution light on Herman Street to make it safer for the students.

Helped Hosea Community Church receive new sidewalks and retaining walls

Helped Hadley Park get paved and its gymnasium received a new roof, a new floor, new bleachers, and a paint job.

Assisted in getting all bridges under Interstate 40 in the 21st District equipped with proper lighting for the safety of our pedestrians.

Cleared and cleaned alleys and had many of them tarred and graveled.

Interesting Personal Facts:

An alumnus of TSU.

Owned and operated two businesses for more than 40 years.

Community Comment:

"I am very satisfied with Councilman Whitmore in office. Without him, numerous things would not have been accomplished. For example, before I became the principal, the community wasn't involved in the school. Now they are. Therefore, I am going to do everything in my power to help him get re-elected."

-Michael Tribue, Principal of W.A. Bass Middle School



COURTESY OF EDWARD WHITMORE, SR.'S OFFICE

See "Nashville" on page 13

Community View

SEC Issue 2002

Campus offers 2nd annual multicultural fair

Community View Brief

The Multicultural Friendship Society, in collaboration with the Office of International Business Programs and the College of Business at Tennessee State University hosted the Second Annual TSU Multicultural Student Celebration Thursday, April 4, 2002.

The fair took place outside in the Old Plaza on the main campus at TSU from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Ethnic foods,



PHOTO BY TOSHA JONES

One of many booths set up at the Multicultural Celebration, here at TSU.

intercultural entertainment, displays from different countries, and representatives from local businesses were available for the public at this free celebration.

According to the International Business Program, the overall goal of the event was to stimulate and strengthen interaction among international and United States students, faculty, the business community and the public.

"We have

just about every tribe and every country represented here at TSU," said Gods Power, a senior with a double major in psychology and nursing, who helped coordinate the event. "It is time for us to get together and learn more about each other."

"It's not just foreign students, it also involves students [from] here. This is the only organization we can say is international, but involves American students. We are happy to do this every year." The Multicultural Student Celebration was sponsored by Walgreens and other local businesses.

For more information about the International Business Programs or the



PHOTO BY TOSHA JONES

Students listen to music from around the world.

Multicultural Friendship Society, contact Susan Crossley at 963-7349.

Nashville area representatives continued

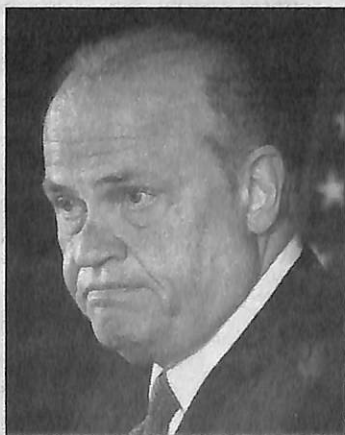
Continued from page 12

Name: **Fred Thompson**

Position: **United States Senator**

Education: Memphis State University and Vanderbilt University Law School

Committees: Senate Committee on Finance, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the National Security Working Group, Council on Foreign Relations.



COURTESY OF FRED THOMPSON'S OFFICE

Accomplishments:

Founded the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Congressional Caucus to raise the profile of the park in Congress and with the National Park Service.

Worked to make sure Tennessee received the federal investment it needs for safe roads and bridges.

Convinced the Senate to continue funding for the Tennessee Valley Authority to carry out its important land and water stewardship activities.

Helped secure critical funding for infrastructure upgrades at the Y-12, a "National Prototype Center," and helped pass an amendment prohibiting the president from choosing Oak Ridge as a temporary dumping site for nuclear fuel.

Urged passage of copyright term extension legislation protecting songwriters.

Helped expedite Senate confirmation of qualified Tennesseans for the federal bench, including Judge Bernice Donald, the first Black woman ever to sit on the federal bench in Tennessee.

Supported Tennessee's farmers by providing emergency funding during economic hardship, and opposed a huge tobacco tax increase.

Interesting Personal Facts:

Was an actor before becoming a senator.

Served only one term before last month announcing his retirement.



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Community View

Williams says, "SGA gives so much of their time and themselves, and they are students first"

Continued from page 8

passed away from prostate cancer...I feel like the opportunity was something that God put in my path, and I'm grateful for that." Even though the American Cancer Society's relay for life was Evan's most monumental and visible accomplishment, Evans also participated in the Miss Black Hall of Fame pageant in Atlanta, and community service projects that consisted of the TSU court visiting Antioch high school addressing a club called Just Us Girls giving advice to aspiring collegians.

"Our court has probably been the most productive court (TSU) has had in a long time. Miss Sophomore, Tiffany Bryant had a Halloween masquerade and worked on the Relay for Life. Robin

Atkinson, Miss Junior, did a book club, and Talioson Johnson, Miss Freshman, did a freshman tea," Evans said.

Williams added that "each administration is different. (The SGA) gives so much of their time and of themselves, and they are students first. So it's really hard to say that they could have done this better...."

Williams said that the SGA showed a lot of initiative to make the Think Tank work and they brought a lot of positive attention and recognition to the school with the event.

"I think that the students really don't understand what the SGA does and because they don't really understand, then they don't think that they do a lot," Williams said. "The SGA can improve by educating students on what purpose they serve, then maybe students would not be so critical on them because a lot

of students don't feel like they do anything."

SGA members have to go to several meetings with various committees, which usually take up a lot of their time. At other universities the SGA get paid, but only TSU's SGA president and vicepresident get a stipend put on their account.

"I advise students to try to become apart of the SGA," Williams said. "Because the main students who criticize the SGA don't try to be a part of it."

The Meter endorses Edwards, Corbett for SGA Vice-President and Miss TSU

Continued from page 4

objectives of candidate Kennethra J. Edwards. She hopes to strengthen the general assembly to build closer relationships with the SGA and student organizations. Edwards hopes to obtain this by gaining support from the various committee chairs, in belief that the function of the SGA vice-president is to inform the administration and the SGA committee chairs with issues student organizations are battling. In her efforts to eliminate student apathy, she plans to improve such activities as Student Appreciation Week and the Fall and Spring Sports Reception. She wants to have karaoke nights in the cafeteria to bring spirit back to the students.

Edwards also wants to have Sex Expos in the dorms in order to inform students about abstinent lifestyles and what the Bible says about sexual activity. Edwards believes that the vice president must have integrity first, service before self and excellence in all that they do to accomplish any task. Her cur-

rent involvement on campus includes being an active member of the SGA as a representative-at-large, the chair of the Athletics Committee, an Air Force ROTC cadet (Special Projects Officer) and a member of the National Criminal Justice Honor Society.

While on the SGA, Edwards has organized Student Appreciation Week for the past two years, assisted in allocating over \$20,000 in Book Scholarships, structured the First Annual Sports Reception and enforced the Three Strikes Policy within the SGA.

Miss Tennessee State University

"Pride" and the "Resurrection of TSU" are two themes Cheron V. Corbett plans to inject into the TSU community if elected to the position of Miss TSU. Corbett wants students and faculty to have pride in themselves, pride in others and pride and respect in the university. She believes when this is accomplished, students will want to give back to the university once they graduate. One of Corbett's long-term objectives is to

establish a bank on campus as a convenience for students and faculty. Corbett is passionate about making everyone at TSU feel wanted and needed, she believes the best way to do this is getting people involved. Corbett plans to have an open forum for administration and faculty to tackle school issues concerning students.

Each candidate presented what they considered the issues to be; however, a decision must be made by the voters to select the most qualified and respectable candidate for each position. By no means are we telling the student body who to vote for, or that they should choose who we endorsed. It is up to you to decide who you want to represent TSU. No matter who your choice may be, we hope you make an informed and intelligent decision based on who can better your university and truly reach out to the students, and not on who had the best freebies at the rally.

Want to write
for
The Meter
next year?
Well come
and fill out an
application
on the
third floor of
the Floyd-
Payne
Campus
Center in
Suite 304A.

2002-2003 Student Government Association Candidates

SGA President and Vice President



Jamie R. Riley
Major: Health Care Administration
Hometown: Cincinnati
Classification: Junior

Riley has held many integral positions during his matriculation at TSU, including class president during the 1999-2000 academic school year, Ohio Club president and NAACP vice president in 2000-2001. He has served on the Student Government Association as a representative-at-large and Speaker of the House during the 2000-2001 academic year. He also is involved in other organizations, including Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity, Inc., University Peer Counselors, Brothers for Love Achievement Culture and Knowledge (B.L.A.C.K.) and president of the Men of Willingly Uniting All Newcomers (W.U.A.N.).

"I plan to take the Student Government Association to new levels of leadership and implement new ideas to provide the student body with a better collegiate environment."



Kennethra Edwards
Major: Criminal Justice
Hometown: Memphis
Classification: Junior

Edwards said she believes that the vice president must have "integrity first, service before self and excellence in all that they do to accomplish any task." Her current involvement on campus includes being an active member of the SGA as a representative-at-large, the chair of the Athletics Committee, an Air Force ROTC cadet (Special Projects Officer) and the National Criminal Justice Honor Society.

While on the SGA, Edwards has organized Student Appreciation Week for the past two years, assisted in allocating over \$20,000 in Book Scholarships, structured the First Annual Sports Reception and enforced the Three Strikes Policy within the SGA.



Angela R. Frierson
Major: Business Administration
Hometown: West Helena, Ark.
Classification: Junior

Frierson is involved in the University's Honors Program for which she acts as Honors Council President and she is an Honors Foundation Scholar. She is involved in such honor societies as Golden Key International, Alpha Kappa Mu, Phi Kappa Phi and is on the National Dean's List. She also volunteers at the Tennessee State Museum.

2002-2003 Student Government Association Candidates

Miss Tennessee State University



Robin D. Atkinson
Major: Biology Pre-Medicine
Hometown: Atlanta
Classification: Junior

Atkinson is currently a member of the Thomas E. Poag Player's Guild, Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Inc., Love You Like A Sister Inc. (LYLAS), National Association of Colored Women's Club (NACWC), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Junior Congress, the Honors Program and Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. She would like to be Miss TSU because she has a "deep love and pride for her school." She said she also wants to be a role model. She volunteers with Kid's Club, a program dedicated to teaching inner city youth about God. Her motto is, "Be what you are. This is the first step toward becoming better than you are."



Cheron V. Corbett
Major: Marketing and
Communications
Hometown: Chicago
Classification: Senior

Corbett hopes to impact the lives of TSU students by being a positive representative of the TSU spirit. For the past two years, Corbett has served as a representative-at-large for the SGA. Corbett has been involved in TSU Campus Radio, the Relay for Life and the Think Tank.



Carlsie Lynnette Cornist
Major: Biology
Hometown: Cincinnati
Classification: Junior

Cornist is a member of the only undergraduate chapter of the Student National Dental Association in the country. She also is a member of the NAACP and is chairman for volunteering at Project S.E.E. The scripture that most uplifts her spirit is from I John 3:1, "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we be called the children of God!"



Keisha Danielle Endsley
Major: Biology
Hometown: Decatur, Ga.
Classification: Junior

Endsley is a former cheerleader in both high school and at TSU. She is a member of the NAACP, a tutor with Project S.E.E. and vice president of American Medical Student Association. She hopes to set up programs for biology majors and others so that TSU can claim more doctors, lawyers and professionals in the practical world.

2002-2003 Student Government Association Candidates

Miss Tennessee State University



Antoinette James

Major: Psychology

Hometown: Huntsville, Ala.

Classification: Junior

I desire the position of Miss Tennessee State University because I want to be a positive role model for young men and women. I want to be a symbol of love, integrity and harmony on this campus and the community. With unity, we can achieve the level of school spirit that TSU once had, devoid of student apathy and full of lifetime friendships and proud alumni. I want our students to be so "in love," so involved, and so proud of their alma mater that they continue to give back as alumni and continue to strive to make our university a perpetual HBCU.



Gina P. James

Major: Marketing

Hometown: Nashville

Classification: Junior

James has been a member of the Sophomore Ambassadors and Junior Congress. She is a graduate of Tennessee Technology Center at Nashville from which she obtained a cosmetology license. James is a member of Schrader Lane Church of Christ and spends much of her spare time with programs that benefit the under privileged. She is a strong believer in the scripture, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13.)



Nubian Simmons

Major: Elementary Education

Hometown: Milwaukee, Wis.

Classification: Senior

Simmons is a member of the Wisconsin Alliance, the Pre Alumni Council, University Peer Counselors, University Pep Club, Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity Inc., The Evolution Project, Student Election Commission and the Student Union Board of Governors. She has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, YMCA, Special Olympics, United Negro College Fund and the American Red Cross. She has been a chair of the Miss TSU Pageant and believes that the "position is more than just a beauty pageant; it is respectable and challenging."

2002-2003 Student Government Association Candidates

Representatives-at-Large



NAME: Khalelah T. Henderson
MAJOR: Business Administration
CLASSIFICATION: Junior
HOMETOWN: Cincinnati
POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: I ran for this position to be a voice for the often overlooked and unheard TSU student community. I feel it is imperative for us to be aware of our surroundings. In the past there has been a denial of the fact that there are existing problems among us. If elected to this position I will listen attentively to the concerns of all students, regardless of their profile. I know that reality does not allow for every person to be satisfied at the same time but I will pursue solutions that do the most good for the largest amount of people. I am confident that together we can find the lost pieces and restore the heart of TSU.



NAME: Chasseny M. Lewis
MAJOR: Speech pathology and audiology
CLASSIFICATION: Freshman
HOMETOWN: Sipsey, Ala.
POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: Entering Tennessee State as a freshman has entitled me to more experiences than I ever could have imagined. I was elected Freshman Class Representative and have been able to serve as a member of the SGA House of Delegates. By serving as class representative I have worked alongside other class officers to promote social unity among the class. I am currently on the SGA, an active member of the NAACP, a member of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA), as well as the Freshman Delegation.



NAME: Meridith Miller
MAJOR: Mass communications
CLASSIFICATION: Freshman
HOMETOWN: Memphis
POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: When a person has the opportunity to serve others, the opportunity should be taken. If elected to office I plan to share my vision to help improve life on TSU's campus. My vision encompasses the following ideas: value, innovate, support, inspire, organize and network. I am confident I possess leadership strengths, creativity and diligence that will enable me to accomplish the goals of my vision, and make me an asset to our Student Government Association. I am a lady of intelligence, strength, and integrity. I hope to be able to use my qualities to complement those of other SGA members so that we can increase spirit and participation, and make a positive impact on our student body.



NAME: Brian E. Sexton
MAJOR: Business administration
CLASSIFICATION: Junior
HOMETOWN: Chicago
POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: I serve on such organizations as the NAACP where I'm the second vice president. I also serve on the University Peer Counselors and the Student Government Association where I am currently a Rep-at-Large. I have gained a great deal of leadership skills from various organizations that I've served on especially the SGA, which is why I'm running again for the position of Rep-at-Large (Day). I would like to continue tackling issues with the administration concerning the student body. Issues such as housing, parking, security and technology have been a major crisis to the student body and I would like to continue battling these problems facing our university once and for all.



NAME: Courtney L. White
MAJOR: Health Care Administration
CLASSIFICATION: Junior
HOMETOWN: Dyersburg, TN
POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: I am seeking the office of representative-at-large because I want to continue to help change Tennessee State University. I feel that the students have lost their tiger pride and have become apathetic in their school spirit. I feel if students get involved and surround themselves in a positive atmosphere their spirits will change. Throughout the past three years here at Tennessee State University, I have been involved in several campus organizations such as SGA for the past three years, Food Service Chair the past two years, Junior Congress, NAACP, Sophomore Ambassadors, Freshman Delegation, Peer Counselors and Health Care Administration and Planning Student Organization.



NAME: Claudia Woods
MAJOR: Nursing
CLASSIFICATION: Junior
HOMETOWN: Little Rock, Arkansas
POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: Being able to serve as representative-at-large will give me a chance to serve for the school, students and the community. This position requires one who is dedicated, hard working and willing to listen to the concerns from the student body. I am prepared for these responsibilities and am ready to work in addressing important issues and help improve our school for future generations. I have been a member of the Biology Club, Pep Club, served as Miss Eppse Hall 2000-01, and volunteered with SUBG activities and local hospitals.

2002-2003 Student Government Association Candidates

Representatives -at-Large



NAME: Chauncey Davis
 MAJOR: Biology/Pre-Medicine
 CLASSIFICATION: Freshman
 HOMETOWN: Albany, Ga.
 POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Evening)

WHY: I understand that the position of representative-at-large is one of service to the student body, at Tennessee State University and not a resume builder. I am willing to make the voices of the students heard where it counts the most, which is within our Student Government Association. I possess the skills necessary to make a felt impact at this university. Integrity, dedication, loyalty, leadership, teamwork and understanding best describe me. While here at TSU, I have been crowned Miss Mary Wilson Hall 2001-02. I have also been involved in the University Honors Program, Pep Club, L.Y.L.A.S., Student Y and the TSU NAACP, all while maintaining a 4.0 grade point average.



NAME: Charles H. Galbreath Jr.
 MAJOR: Business administration
 CLASSIFICATION: Sophomore
 HOMETOWN: Fulton, Mo.
 POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Evening)

WHY: Every day I strive to represent TSU, my family, and myself to the utmost. I have been blessed with the opportunity to also represent the illustrious class of 2004 for two consecutive years, first serving as freshman class representative and now sophomore class representative. It is my goal to represent the entire student body as representative at large. I am active in numerous organizations, they include Sophomore Ambassadors where I serve as the chair, Brothers for Love, Achievement Culture and Knowledge (B.L.A.C.K.), Peer Counselors, pre alumni council, reigning Mr. NAACP, Pep Club, and Phi Gamma Nu, Professional Business Fraternity Inc. where I serve as president. As a student leader I must respect and uphold tradition while encouraging change.



NAME: Brandon A. Maclin
 MAJOR: Computer science
 CLASSIFICATION: Freshman
 HOMETOWN: Covington, Tenn.
 POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: I believe in hard work and dedication in everything I do. I plan to use the many skills I have obtained from being a member of various organizations such as Brothers for Love, Achievement, Culture, and Knowledge (B.L.A.C.K.), Freshman Delegation, and the Student Government Association. I can best describe myself as a good people person that is honest, attentive, learns easily, a good listener, open to new ideas, hard working, and punctual. Once in office, I plan to tackle the many issues and problems of the students such as security, parking, technology, and housing.



NAME: Sharica Smallwood
 MAJOR: Mass communications
 CLASSIFICATION: Junior
 HOMETOWN: Detroit
 POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Evening)

WHY: Throughout the years I have displayed a record of leadership skills. Beginning with Student Council Representative and Senior Class President in high school, to becoming Mary Wilson Hall President, Michigan Club Secretary, a member of the university's choir, and Promotions Director of our campus radio station.

I choose to seek a position of rep-at-large (Evening) because I would like to help improve the Public Relations department of the SGA. Throughout the years I have noticed that many of our students are not aware of the different issues and programs offered by the SGA. I feel that is a problem. The SGA is the voice of the student body, and I feel the little voices aren't being heard.



NAME: Shayla Monique Toombs
 MAJOR: Biology/Pre-Medicine
 CLASSIFICATION: Junior
 HOMETOWN: Atlanta
 POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Evening)

WHY: I would like to decrease student apathy throughout the university, as well as serve the student body by listening and responding to their concerns. Ultimately, I would like to be an operative connection for students and administration.

I am currently serving as junior class vice president. Previously I have held positions as SGA representative for the Biology Club and Treasurer for the Student National Medical Association.



NAME: Nekya Jenise Young
 MAJOR: Sociology and geography
 CLASSIFICATION: Sophomore
 HOMETOWN: Grand Rapids, Mich.
 POSITION: Representative-at-Large (Day)

WHY: To re-invest what Tennessee State University already has in me. I believe my campaign will allow the TSU student body to see the embodiment of qualities such as energy, spirit, will, pride, confidence, intelligence and determination. The outcome of the student vote shows that TSU is united and confident in particular students to represent them. I have plans to implement a designated business day each month for students. On that day, all TSU students will be required to wear business attire. A business beneficial seminar or activity (resume building, web page designing, impromptu speaking tips, etc...) will be available to students. I also plan to work closely with Residence Life, Student Affairs and Security.

APPLY NOW TO BE

YEARBOOK EDITOR

FOR THE 2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR

Do you have demonstrated leadership skills, ability to meet deadlines, and skills in writing, layout and project management? If so, consider leading a team to document TSU spirit in *The Tennessean* yearbook. *The Tennessean* is a treasured reflection of TSU. Help create the treasure!

Send resume and cover letter by April 15, 2002.

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P.O. Box 9563, 3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.,
Nashville, TN 37209
or deliver by hand to the Humanities Bldg. Room 104
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Send resume and cover letter by April 15, 2002.

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